286.757

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

TWENTY-THIRD ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

Oxford Association

HELD WITH THE

Big Springs Baptist Church,

Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Sept. 8, 9, 10, 1892.

OFFICERS:

H. W. ROCKETT, Moderator. W. I. HARGIS, Clerk.

E. G. LEIGH, Treasurer.

DIRECTORY.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

M. M. Randolph.	P. H. Lawrence.
H. B. Gowen.	H. L. Johnson.
J. A. Butler.	S. R. Whitten.
J. W. Higginbotham.	J. A. Lee.
J. D. Woodruff.	B. B. McCarter.
F. W. Barton.	Willard Wilmarth.
G. W. Gardner.	J. R. Jones.
Henry Wilson.	E. L. Wesson.
Thos. Winter.	J. L. Sisk.
R. L. Wood.	A. J. McKee.

MEMBERS OF LOCAL COMMITTEE.

A. H. Leigh.	H. W. Rocket.
J. A. Woodruff.	W. W. Dickens.

W. J. Hargis.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Education—C. L. Anderson, S. A. Woodruff.
Foreign Missions—J. A. Lee, R. M. Lawrence.
Home Missions—W. J. Hargis, B. T. Kimbrough.
Home Missions—E. L. Wesson, J. W. Higginbotham.
Sunday Schools—S. R. Whitten, F. W. Barton.
Publication—H. W. Rocket, S. R. Latoh.
Total Abstinence—H. L. Johnson, P. H. Lawrence.
Public Meeting and Family Worship—G. W. Gardner, H. B. Whitten.
Woman's Work—G. W. Holloway, B. F. Whitten.

MINISTERS' REGISTER.

H. L. Johnson, Water Valley.	H. W. Rocket, Harrison.
[illegible], Oxford.	G. W. Holloway, Wallace.
[illegible], Wolfgangville.	W. J. Hargis, University.
[illegible], Harrison.	E. L. Wesson, Water Valley.
[illegible], Water Valley.	Thomas Winter, Oxford.
[illegible], Oxford.	C. L. Anderson, Water Valley.

J. A. Lee, Coffeeville.

LICENTIATES.

J. F. Mabry, Hardison.	S. A. Woodruff, Batesville.

[illegible] the introductory sermon, E. L. Wesson, Abbeville.

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MINUTES.

BIG SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH, September 8, 1892.

The Oxford Baptist Association held its twenty-third session with the Big Springs Baptist Church, September 8, 1892.

In the absence of both the former moderator and clerk, the body was called to order by E. L. Wesson at 11 o'clock, a. m. After singing two or three songs and prayer, lead by E. L. Wesson, the annual sermon was preached by C. D. Anderson, from Hebrews xii, 1, 2. The sermon was well received and generally enjoyed. Adjourned for dinner. Benediction by E. L. Wesson.

AFTERNOON SESSION, 1:30 P. M.

Re-assembled with singing and prayer. H. W. Rockett was made temporary moderator, and W. I. Hargis was made temporary secretary.

E. L. Wesson and C. L. Anderson were appointed reading clerks, and the following churches responded by letter and messengers:

Antioch—D A. Burnett .

Batesville—W. B. Dickens, R. J. Shuford.

Bethany—H. W. Rockett, H. B. Gowen, N. A. McLeod, Geo. Turner.

Big Springs—J. P. Boydston. D. J. Thomas, W. J. Edgar.

Concord—J. D. Williams, J. W. Higginbotham, J. M. Tatum.

Clear Creek—I. H. McElroy, B. F. Whitten, Thomas Greer.

Courtland—J. A. Lee, E. G. Leigh, E. T. Leigh.

Good Hope—C. L. Anderson, J. D. Woodruff, J. W. Lamb, J. A. Woodruff, E. M. Thornton, D. E Hallman

Liberty Hill—B. B. McCuller, F. F. White, J. G. Hill, J. F. Hill.

DIRECTORY.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

M. M. Randolph,
H. B. Gowen,
J. A. Butler,
J. W. Higginbotham,
J. D. Woodruff,
E. W. Barton,
G. W. Gardner,
Henry Wilson,
Thos. Winter,
Robt. Wood,
P. H. Lowrey,
H. L. Johnson,
S. R. Whitten,
J. A. Lee,
B. B. McCuller,
Willard Wilshire,
J. R. Jones,
E. L. Wesson,
J. L. Sisk,
A. J. McKee.

MEMBERS OF LOCAL COMMITTEE.

A. H. Leigh,
J. A. Woodruff,
H. W. Rocket,
W. W. Dickens,
W. I. Hargis.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

EDUCATION—C. L. Anderson, S. A. Woodruff.
FOREIGN MISSIONS—J. A. Lea, R. M. Leavell.
STATE MISSIONS—W. I. Hargis, B. T. Kimbrough.
HOME MISSIONS—E. L. Wesson, J. W. Higginbotham.
SUNDAY SCHOOLS—S. R. Whitten, E. W. Barton.
PUBLICATIONS—H. W. Rocket, S. R. Lamb.
TOTAL ABSTINENCE—H. L. Johnson, P. H. Lowrey.
PRAYER-MEETING AND FAMILY WORSHIP—G. W. Gardner, H. R. Whitten.
WOMAN'S WORK—G. W. Hollowell, B. F. Whitten.

MINISTERS' REGISTER.

H. L. Johnson, Water Valley.
G. W. Gardner, Oxford.
B. F. Whitten, Morgansville.
E. D. Rowe, Harrison.
W. L. Hudson, Water Valley.
L. W. Metts, Oxford.
H. W. Rockett, Harrison.
G. W. Hollowell, Wallace.
W. I. Hargis, University.
E. L. Wesson, Water Valley.
Thomas Winter, Oxford.
C. L. Anderson, Water Valley.
J. A. Lee, Courtland.

LICENTIATES.

J. T. Mabry, Harrison.
S. A. Woodruff, Batesville.

To preach the introductory sermon, E. L. Wesson; alternate, B. F. Whitten.

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Concord—J. D. Williams, J. W. Higginbotham, J. M. Tatum.
Clear Creek—I. H. McElroy, B. F. Whitten, Thomas Greer.
Courtland—J. A. Lee, E. G. Leigh, E. T. Leigh.
Good Hope—C. L. Anderson, J. D. Woodruff, J. W. Lamb, J. A. Woodruff, E. M. Thornton, D. E Hallman
Liberty Hill—B. B. McCuller, F. F. White, J. G. Hill, J. F. Hill.

Mt. Gilead—P. C. Hunter, E. W. Barton, W. L. Hudson.
Mt. Pisgah—Willard Wilshire, Jesse Garland.
New Liberty—A. J. McKee, D. C. Brister, S. Wilkins.
Oxford—G. W. Gardner, W. I. Hargis.
Pope—Henry Wilson, M. M. Randolph.
Pilgrim's Rest—G. W. Hollowell, W. M Vanderburge, C. S Mills, J. R. Jones.
Water Valley—C. Crosby, E. M. Whitehead, E. L. Wesson.
Yocona—Richard Taylor, Lee Morrow.
Union—Robert Wood, W. E. McCrarey, Brown Gregory.

NOTE—Butler's Chapel and Yellow Leaf were not represented.

In the absence of the letter from Clear Creek Church the two messengers present were recognized.

The body effected a permanent organization by electing H. W. Rockett, moderator; W. I. Hargis, secretary; and E. G Leigh, treasurer. The order of business governing the body at its last meeting was adopted to govern the present session.

The following messengers were received;

J. T. Christian, corresponding secretary of the Convention Board; H. F. Sproles, president of said board; J. A. Killingsworth and J. A. Powell, of Calhoun Association; and H. P. Hurt, representative of the Baptist Layman.

The following messengers to other bodies were appointed:

Coldwater Association—E. L. Wesson, W. I. Hargis.
Yallobusha Association—G. W. Gardner, W. I Hargis, E. W. Barton, H. L. Johnson.
Chickasaw Association—J. J. Rotenberry.
Calhoun Association—G. W. Hollowell.
State Convention—G. W. Gardner, J. A. Lee, E. L. Wesson, H. W. Rockett.

W. I. Hargis was appointed a messenger to the Southern Baptist Convention at its next meeting, which will be held at Nashville, Tenn., in May, 1893; J. A. Lee, alternate.

E. L. Wesson stated that he attended the last meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention, but did not attempt a report of the proceedings as they had been fully reported by the various Baptist papers.

The pastor and deacons of Big Springs Church, with C. Crosby and I. H. McElroy added, were appointed a committee on devotional exercises. Other committees were appointed as follows:

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Finance Committee—J.W. Lamb, J. P. Boydston, H. B. Gowen.

The following to take the place of absent committees:

Mississippi College—C. L. Anderson, S. A. Woodruff.
Christian Education—J. J. Whitten, N. A. McLeod.
Sunday Sch ols—J. W. Lamb, E. W. Barton, W. B. Dickens.

The report of the Executive Board was set for the first thing Saturday morning.

The reports on State, Home and Foreign Missions were made the special order for 10 a. m., Friday. The body agreed to meet at 9:30 a. m., adjourn at 12 m., re-assemble at 1:30 p. m., and adjourn at 3:30 p. m.

The following apportionment committee, composed of one member from each church represented, was appointed:

Antioch, D. A. Burnett,	Batesville, R. J. Shuford,
Bethany, N. A. McLeod,	Big Springs, J. T. Boydston,
Clear Creek, J. J. Whitten,	Concord, J. D. Williams,
Courtland E. T. Leigh,	Good Hope, J. D. Woodruff,
Liberty Hill, J. G. Hill,	Mt. Gilead, P. C. Hunter,
Mt. Pisgah, Jesse Garland,	New Liberty, J. A. Wells,
Oxford, G W. Gardner,	Pope, Henry Wilson,
Pilgrim's Rest, J. R. Jones,	Water Valley, E. L. Wesson,
Yocona, Richard Taylor,	Union, Robert Wood.

E. L. Wesson was made chairman of the above committee and called a meeting of the committee immediately after dinner Friday.

The following is the report of the committee as forwarded to the secretary after the Association adjourned:

Antioch	$ 10 00
Batesville	100 00
Bethany	50 00
Big Springs	30 00
Butler's Chapel	10 00
Clear Creek	150 00
Concord	25 00
Courtland	50 00
Good Hope	75 00
Liberty Hill	12 00
Mt. Gilead	5 00
Oxford	200 00
Water Valley	175 00
Pilgrims' Rest	20 00

Pope	10 00
Yellow Leaf	25 00
Yocona	50 00
Union	10 00
New Liberty	10 00
Mt. Pisgah	20 00
Total	$1,037 00

H. F. Sproles is announced to preached tonight. Adjourned to meet at 9:30 a. m. Friday. At 7:30 p. m. Bro. H. F. Sproles preached to a good congregation on the "Witness of the Spirit," Romans, viii, 17.

SECOND DAY, 9:30 A. M.

The Association was called to order by the moderator. "Jesus refuge of my soul" was sung. The moderator read part of the 15th chapter of John, and the Association was led in prayer by J. A. Killingsworth.

The journal of Thursday was read, corrected and approved.

G. W. Gardner read a partial report of the Executive Board, (as the report of one of the missionaries had not been sent in) also in connection therewith his report as treasurer of said board, both of which were approved.

REPORT OF G. W. GARDNER, TREASURER OF EXECUTIVE BOARD.

1891

DEBITS.

September 11th, balance as per last report	$122 20
September 9, 1892—	
Batesville Church, all purposes	69 00
Bethany Church, all purposes	19 00
Big Springs Church, all purposes	25 00
Courtland Church, all purposes	10 00
Good Hope Church, all purposes	45 60
Liberty Hill Church, all purposes	6 60
Mt. Gilead Church, all purposes	4 00
Mt. Pisgah Church, all purposes	11 05
New Liberty Church, all purposes	2 25
Oxford Church, all purposes	79 04
Pope Church, all purposes	4 15
Pilgrim's Rest Church, all purposes	18 75
Union Church, all purposes	10 60
Water Valley Church, all purposes	66 50

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Yellow Leaf Church, all purposes	7 00
Yocona Church, all purposes	30 70
H. L. Johnson	5 00
G. W. Gardner (for Jackson Church,)	5 00
G. W. Hollowell	2 25
Total	$543 69

CREDITS.

By amount paid to S. R. Whitten by error	$ 1 50
" " " " J. T. Christian	203 49
" " " " W. P. Winter	113 10
" " " " G. W. Hollowell	104 35
" " " " Ministerial Education	56 10
" " " " Jackson Church	10 00
" " " for Treasurer's Book	70
" " " " Postage	30
Total	$489 54
To balance in hand September 9, 1892	54 15
	$543 69

The above is a statement of only the money that passed through the hands of the treasurer of the Executive Board. For a full financial statement we refer to the tabulated statement to be found elsewhere.

SECRETARY.

REPORT OF G. W. HOLLOWELL, MISSIONARY AND COLPORTEUR OF OXFORD ASSOCIATION.

Number of days of actual service	103
" " miles traveled	1,341
" " families visited	327
" " sermons preached	51
" " prayer-meetings held	14
" " prayers held with families	71
" " baptisms	16
" " Sabbath Schools organized	2
" " pages of tracts distributed	870
" " books and tracts and Bibles sold	164
Collected for State Missions	$8.50

The colportage work has been small, owing to the scarcity of money. There is great need of continuing the work. There are at least eight communities where we have worked that are anxious for Baptist preaching. Submitted.

G. W. HOLLOWELL.

Bro. W. P. Winter, the other missionary, presented no report, except that he had labored fifty-four days.

The hour for the special order having arrived, the report on Foreign Missions was read by E. L. Wesson, the report on State Missions was read by H. Rockett, and the report on Home Missions was read by J. A. Lee. The report on Woman's Work was also read, in connection with the above reports, by G. W. Gardner.

The reports were spoken to by E. L. Wesson, H. F. Sproles and J. T. Christian. Much useful information was imparted by the reports and addresses, and an increased interest in missions engendered.

A collection was taken in cash and subscriptions amounting to $91.10 to meet a deficit in the State Mission work of last Conventional year.

The following unpaid subscriptions were made:

Oxford W. M. Society (by pastor)	$10 00
Batesville Church (by R. J. Shuford)	9 00
E. L. Wesson	5 00
J. P. Boydston	5 00
C. L. Anderson	5 00
W. M. Society, Water Valley	10 00
Good Hope Church (by J. A. Woodruff)	5 00
W. M. Society, Good Hope	2 50
Sun Beams, Good Hope	2 50
Clear Creek Church, (by J. J. Whitten)	3 00
T. L. Boydston	1 00
J. A. Killingsworth	1 00
J. A. Wells	1 00
L. N. Sanders	1 00
E. W. Barton	1 00
B. B. McCuller	1 00
W. J. Edgar	1 00
J. R. Broome	1 00
J. T. Johnsey	2 50
Mrs. Florence Boydston	50
Total	$68 00
Cash collections	23 00
Grand Total	$91 10

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B. F. Whitten having just come in is recognized as a messenger from Clear Creek Church.

No letter having arrived from Clear Creek Church, the secretary is authorized to obtain and insert in the minutes the statistics of said church.

Adjourned for dinner. Benediction by W. I. Hargis.

AFTERNOON SESSION, 1:30 P. M.

The Association re-assembled promptly at 1:30 p. m. Sung "Nearer My God to Thee." H. B. Gowen led the body in prayer.

The regular order of business was suspended that Bro. H. F. Sproles might present the claims of Jackson Church and Mission Rooms, which he did, and received in pledges, to be paid by the 1st of January, 1893, the following amounts:

Water Valley Church (previously pledged)	$23 50
Batesville Church	5 00
H. W. Rockett	5 00
J. A. Lee	5 00
Clear Creek Church	10 00
J. D. Williams	1 00
Courtland Church	5 00
Good Hope Sunday School	5 00
Oxford Church	5 00
Pilgrim's Rest Church	5 00
Total	$69 50

A new Executive Board for the ensuing year was appointed. See directory.

The Local Committee was located at Good Hope.

The following resolutions offered by G. W. Gordon were adopted:

Resolved, That we heartily endorse the action of the State Convention in removing Mississippi College from Clinton to Meridian, and we pledge it our continued support.

Resolved, That we recommend that the Sunday Schools within our bounds adopt the Sunday School series published at Nashville, Tenn., and use them in the schools. Their quarterlies and papers are surpassed by none, and, besides, they are the publications of our Sunday School board. Send to J. M. Frost, Nashville, Tenn., for samples.

The regular order was resumed and the reports on Foreign, State and Home Missions, and Woman's Work were adopted.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Your committee on Foreign Missions submit the following:

We are bound to give the gospel to the heathen, for our Lord said preach it to every creature. Nothing can remove from us the obligation to "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature," because Christ gave us the command and has never withdrawn it. We may be displeased with the mission management, but we cannot withhold our help, for Christ says today in his word, "Go teach all nations." The obligation is upon us, so bad management or good management, rich or poor, we must help to send the gospel to all the nations, or else bear the mark of disobedient children of God. But as an Association, which is a member of the S. B. Convention, we have a right to express ourselves concerning the management of the missions we help to support. And your committee is of the opinion that the men who do the field work and those who do the giving have a right to complain of the expense attached to Board machinery, and the salaries paid some of the missionaries. But notwithstanding this right to complain, we have no right under heaven to withhold the gospel from the heathen. We must give them the gospel regardless of mismanagement or unnecessary expense, because Christ has commanded it. Our missionaries, considering the difficulties in their work have been fairly prosperous the past year. Most of them have been moderately healthy, and report the blessings of God upon their labors. There were baptized last year by our foreign missionaries 434 persons, and the churches in heathen lands contributed $3,956.9. We have in all foreign fields 74 missionaries, 21 ordained natives, and 61 unordained native workers. And we have in all foreign lands 74 organized churches. Brethren we must do more for the heathen if we carry out our Lord's command. Respectfully submitted,

E. L. WESSON.

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

During the past year 59 missionaries were employed in State work, $9 556.62 raised for the work, 257 stations occupied, 550 additions made to the churches, 10 houses of worship built and 4 repaired. There was an increase in the giving over the preceeding year, but the work was greater, which left a deficit of nearly $1,000. This showing should be to us a cause of gratitude, not unmixed with dissatisfaction. Of gratitude, because the work is growing; of dissatisfaction, because it is not growing faster. It is

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evident that we are from perfection in the spirit of liberality. We have nearly 85,000 white Baptists in the State, and we ought to give at least $50,000 for State work. A large number of our people do not give anything for missions, and many who do give do not give according to the rule of the gospel, as God has prospered them. If we accept all the opportunities God is giving us to work, we must cultivate more the self-sacrifice in His cause.

H. W. ROCKETT,
E. W. BARTON.

REPORT OF HOME MISSIONS.

DEAR BRETHREN—Your committee on Home Missions beg leave to submit the following report, which we hope will be thoroughly discussed:

The Board began its work this year with a debt of thirty thousand dollars ($30,000.) and therefore has not been able to do as much for the cause as it did last year. In addition to this the Board has had to contend with the cry of "hard times," caused by the low prices of cotton. With all of this to meet, the board has done a grand work. For this conventional year the Board has employed 365 missionaries, who have occupied 1,324 churches and stations, received by baptism and letter 11,247, organized 342 Sunday Schools which have 17,785 teachers and pupils, constituted 179 churches and built 80 houses of worship. These missionaries have also made free use of the Bible, Testament, tracts and other religious literature, which we feel will be instrumental in doing great good. The total amounts raised and expended during this year are as follows: The whole amount raised was $227,281.51. Of this amount $68,683.50 was raised and expended on the field for mission work, and $64,064.42 was used for houses of worship, and the remainder, $94,462.38, being used for other purposes; leaving in the treasury of the board $71.31, and a debt of about $1,000. We regret the Board has not done more, yet we are thankful it has done this much in the mission cause. Now, to prevent anyone from asking where these missionaries have been at work and where this money has been spent, we will state that they have been at work in Alabama, Arkansas, Cuba, Florida, Georgia, Indian Territory, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Western North Carolina, Western Arkansas and Indian Territory, and West Virginia. The money that has been expended for mission work and houses of worship has been in these several states and territories.

Your committee thinks that with the exception of ministerial education, there is no work so important as that of Home Mis-

sions, and we would recommend that the Oxford Association do what she can towards raising the $1,000 that is due the Board. We also recommend that our Association recognize the action of the Centennial Committee, and make special efforts to raise our portion of the $125,000 that is needed to carry on the home work this conventional year.

Brethren, we must do more for the Home Mission cause this year than we have ever done in the past. And my reason for saying so is this: we can never hope to see the foreign fields worked as th y should be till we have worked the fields at home more thoroughly, and may the Lord use the churches in the Oxford Association as instruments in his own hand for doing much good in this work. Yours in the work, B. T. KIMBROUGH,
J. A. LEE.

REPORT ON WOMAN'S WORK.

Your committee fully appreciates the work of our sisters in the churches since the days of the Apostles, and mark. with gratitude to God, their continued efforts to advance the Savior's cause. In our own State our Baptist sisters have done a great deal, and the work within our Association has been as well done as perhaps in any other similar body. We suggest that pastors encourage the sisters in organizing societies in their churches, to work in connection with the church; and in order that this may be properly done, we think it best for our sisters in all cases to pay the amounts they raise to the treasurer of their respective churches, and allow him to send it off with the funds raised by the church for the spread of the gospel. In this way delay, confusion and unnecessary expense may be avoided, and besides, the church of which they are a part gets proper credit for the work of its members. We think that we ought, in every instance, to exalt the churches, and not even seem to indicate that anything else is superior to God's chosen means for maintaining the gospel. The churches are God-ordained, and hence far above all human institutions.

We refer to the retirement of Sister Leigh of the Courtland church, as Vice-President of our Association, and the appointment of Sister Mattie Leavell of the Oxford church as her successor. Sister Leigh has done well, and we are sorry that she decides to give up the position; but we are glad we are to have Sister Leavell as her successor, who, we are sure, will do a good work. She has experience, having been for some time connected with the Central Committee. All who desire information will address her at University, Mississippi, and they will receive prompt and cheerful attention. Respectfully submitted,

J. W. GARDNER, Chairman.

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The report on Christian Education was read by N. A. McLeod, and discussed by J. J. Whitten, G. W. Gardner, E. L. Wesson, J. A. Lee and H. F. Sproles, and adopted.

REPORT ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION.

The Committee on Christian Education respectfully submits the following report:

BRETHREN—Believing as we do that Christians, both clergy and laity, should be as well prepared as possible for the duties of life, we would heartily recommend Christian Education in its best and broadest sense.

When we remember that only a small proportion of those who finish their school life without giving their hearts to God ever become Christians, the question of Christian influences in our seats of learning is easily seen to be of paramount importance.

We, as Baptists of Mississippi, have cause to rejoice at our work along this line. We refer, of course, to Mississippi College, which has been for many years a tower of strength to our denomination in this State.

The good work and high standing of this and kindred institutions of distinctly Christian character have done a great work in arming and equipping valiant "Soldiers of the Cross."

Respectfully, J. J. WHITTEN,
N. A. MCLEOD.

The Association stood and sang "Jesus Refuge of My Soul."

The report on publications was then read by W. I. Hargis, discussed by J. T. Christian, adopted.

REPORT ON PUBLICATIONS.

Every one who can should read. And it is to be conceded that all who can, do read. The politician is supposed to read politics, the lawyer, law; the physician, medicine; the farmer, works on agriculture; the theologian, theology; and so on through the entire list.

All Christians who can are supposed to read the Bible. They would do well to read it more. But there are other things the Christian should read. He should read current literature, enough of it at least to inform himself as to what is going on in the world. As a citizen he should be prepared to consider public questions intelligently, and to cast an intelligent vote at both State and National elections.

Parents should read, that they may properly instruct their children. But no Christian should allow secular reading to supplant

religious reading. The heart, as well as the mind, needs to be cultivated.

There is no lack of sound religious literature at the present time, and it never cost so little as now. Every Baptist home should be supplied with Baptist literature. We have it in abundance. In the A. B. P. Society publications, and the publications of the S. S. Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, we have unlimited resources from which to supply our Sunday Schools. Baptist publications of various kinds are being issued by the thousands every year.

Our Foreign Mission work has an exponent in the F. M. Journal, our Home Mission work in the Home Field. Our various State papers are a convenient and happy medium of correspondence and information concerning the various interests of the several States. In Mississippi we have the Southern Baptist Record and Convention Board Quarterly. We cannot afford not to read these various publications. God grant that there may be an awakening along this line. W. I. HARGIS.

B. F. Whitten was announced to preach tonight at 7:30.

Adjourned to meet at 9:30 a. m., Saturday.

Prayer by S. A. Woodruff.

At 7:30 p. m. Bro. B. F. Whitten preached according to announcement on "The Simplicity of the Gospel," Matthew xix, 16.

THIRD DAY, 9:30 A. M.

The session was opened by the Moderator reading part of the xvi chapter of Mark, and G. W. Hollowell leading in prayer.

The journal of Friday was read, corrected and approved.

The regular order was suspended in order to decide upon the next place of meeting. Courtland, on the Mississippi & Tennessee railroad, was selected as the place for the next meeting of the Association. E. L. Wesson was chosen to preach the introductory sermon, and B. F. Whitten alternate. The following standing committees were appointed: (See directory.)

The two subjects of Mississippi College and Christian Education were stricken from the list of standing subjects, and Education substituted. The report on Mississippi College, in the absence of the committee, was read by the secretary, and spoken to by E. L. Wesson, J. A. Lee, H. W. Rockett, H. L. Johnson, and adopted:

REPORT ON MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE.

Mississippi College is the property of the white Baptists of the State. Each of us should feel an especial interest in its success, and should keep informed on its workings and management. We each have a duty to perform towards it. It is our tower of strength in the State. In addition to the great work it has done for the cause of Christianity in general, it has placed us as a denomination at the head of the column of denominations in the State, numerically and educationally.

The general management of the College is in the hands of twenty-seven (27) trustees, nine (9) of whom are elected at each annual meeting of the State Convention, and these trustees make annual reports to the Convention.

The faculty is at present composed of seven consecrated Christian Baptist men, all well qualified in learning and character for the work they are doing. Dr. R. A. Venable has been President of the Faculty one year. The Board of Trustees in their last annual report to the Convention speak thus of the Faculty: "Dr. Venable has proved to be a strong man and a good teacher, commanding the respect and winning the love of the students, and controlling well those who were disobedient. Dr. Webb, ever a good teacher, and the rest of the faculty, young and earnest Christian men, have all rendered good and faithful service."

The College charges no tuition, but each student on entering, whether for a whole or a part of a session, is required to pay a matriculation fee of $25.00.

Last session 209 students were enrolled, of which 45 were young ministers, or students preparing for the ministry.

The College is not self-sustaining, and cannot be until the endowment is largely increased. It is safe to say that no college with a well-equipped faculty could be successfully run upon the present sources of income of this college without outside help. In addition to the matriculation fees the College draws from the present small endowment ($39,000 actually paid in) about $2,000 annually in interest, as shown by the Trustees' last report. In addition to this the report shows about $620 received from other sources viz., rents, diplomas, etc., making last session a total of not quite $8,000, which is wholly inadequate for the payment of the salaries of seven professors and the necessary incidental expenses. As a result there is an annual deficit of several hundred dollars in the salaries of the Faculty, amounting last session to $1,536.78. How is this deficit to be met? There are only two ways. The Faculty, who receive much smaller salaries than men of equal or less ability in other colleges, must lose it, or the Baptist hosts of the State must pay it. Morally it is our debt.

Will we pay it? In view of the wonderful good the College is doing for the cause of Christianity and for the promotion of Baptist principles, can we afford to let it lag for the want of financial aid when the small contribution of less than 25 cents from each Baptist in the State would keep it above need, and send it triumphantly on in its glorious work.

At present the College is located at Clinton, a small town nine miles west of Jackson. Last year the State Convention, in session at Natchez, realizing the immediate need of new college buildings, or repairs on the old ones, appointed a committee to solicit bids from the towns in the State for the location of the College, and for subscriptions to repair or rebuild at Clinton. This committee was instructed to report to the Convention which met this summer at Meridian. Without going into details, the result was that Meridian proposed to give $50,000 and at least 20 acres of land for the location of the College there, and the Convention accepted the offer, giving them until January 1893 to raise the money. In case the offer is carried out, and your committee has no doubt it will be, the College will be removed and located at Meridian. The next session will be taught at Clinton, as the buildings cannot be erected in Meridian in time, but the probability is that the session of 1893-4, and all subsequent sessions will be in the new buildings at Meridian. The $50,000 to be given by Meridian is for buildings, and it will be sufficient for this, but no more than is needed. The College will still be dependent on the contributions, patronage, love and prayers of the Baptist people throughout the State for its continued success.

The Convention decided to give the buildings and grounds at Clinton to the Central Association, in whose bounds they are located, for the purpose of carrying on a high school or academy.

There was much opposition in the Convention to the removal of the College, but the majority said move, and your committee recommend and urgently insist that all individual opinions ought to yield to the will of the majority in matters of this sort.

Respectfully submitted;

P. H. Lowrey,
C. L. Anderson,
Committee.

The report on Temperance was read by J. W. Higginbotham, and spoken to by E. W. Barton, W. I. Hargis, J. W. Higginbotham, B. F. Whitten, G. W. Hollowell, J. A. Woodruff, amended and adopted.

On motion of E. L. Wesson, Total Abstinence was substituted for Temperance in the list of standing subjects.

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REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Your Committee on Temperance would respectfully submit the following as their report:

Temperance, as a Christian principle, is taught throughout the Bible. That to be temperate in eating, drinking, talking and everything we do is right and enjoined by scripture, we presume no right thinking person will deny.

Admitting these premises to be correct, we are forced to the conclusion that it is the duty of our churches, by strict scriptural discipline, to enforce upon their membership rigid temperance in the use of intoxicants. The attitude of our churches on this subject is such as to preclude discussion as to whether the principle (Temperance) be right or wrong, therefore your Committee would suggest, that instead of preparing reports in the future on Temperance, we have a report on Prohibition.

Against Temperance, we learn, there is no law. Against its opposite, intemperance, we already have the law of God, and now wish to enlist the law of the land also.

Brethren, hoping this report may elicit that amount of interest which the importance of this subject demands, we respectfully submit this our paper.

J. L. Lisk,
J. W. Higginbotham,
Committee.

Adjourned for preaching by E. L. Wesson. Subject, "The Churches of Our Lord Jesus Christ," Matthew, xvi. 18.

AFTERNOON SESSION, 1:30 P. M.

The body was called to order by the moderator. "Jesus Refuge of My Soul" was sung, and J. W. Lamb led in prayer.

The Finance Committee made the following report:

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Your committee on finance beg leave to report as follows:

Collected for minutes	$20 85
Collected for missions	9 65
Collected for clerk fee	2 00
Total	$32 50

Money turned over to Treasurer, E. G. Leigh.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. Lamb,
J. P. Boydston,
H. P. Gowen.

The report on Sunday Schools was read by J. W Lamb, and spoken to by J. W. Lamb and H. W. Rockett. Adopted.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Your committee to whom was given the subject of Sunday Schools do not think it necessary to impress the necessity and advantage of the Sunday School, for we as Baptists have long since committed ourselves to the support of Sunday Schools and of Bible study as furnishing the best way for the instruction of the rising generation in the way it should go as we are taught to train up a child in the way it should go and when they grow old they will not depart from it. Then how careful we ought to be to the instruction we give in our schools as to the seed sown in these young hearts to spring up in after life to bear fruit either for God or for the devil.

And we feel there is no place better suited to young Christians to work and develop and grow in strength than in the Sunday School, and we feel that our Pastors, many of them fail to give that encouragement they ought in this work, for nothing helps more than for our Pastor to be thoroughly in sympathy with the school; that we are sorry to find so few schools in our association and but few in the country that last only a short time. In our opinion, it is not the fault of the young. The fault lies upon us. Unless the elder brethren take part in the schools, it must be a failure; while the young people and children stand ready to do their part, how can we be content to be idle while so many children are growing up in ignorance as to what is taught in the word of God? What we need is men and women consecrated to the work. The children are ready and willing to be taught and we have all the help in the way of literature that we could ask. What excuse then have we? Shall we neglect our duty and let the children go and spend their time in idleness? God forbid. But may we all be in earnest in sowing the seed of God's word in their young heart, that they may grow to be men and women for God, and help them to sing God's praises, which we regard as one of the essential parts of worship, and one greatly neglected in our churches and Sunday Schools.

Brethren, let us bestir ourselves in this work while we have the opportunity afforded us, and pray God to give us his Spirit to guide and direct us in this great work.

Your committee would especially recommend the use of Kind Word Series, published at Nashville, Tenn., as sound and safe for anyone to study. Respectfully submitted,

J. W. LAMB,
E. W. BARTON,
W. B. DICKENS,
Committee.

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Thursday before the second Sunday in September, 1893, was fixed as the time of the next meeting.

The following resolution was read by J. W. Lamb, and heartily endorsed by the body:

Resolved. That the thanks of this Association are due, and are hereby tendered, the people of Big Springs neighborhood for their kind and elegant entertainment to us during our stay among them.

The report on prayer-meeting and family worship was read by H. L. Johnson, discussed by E. L. Wesson, and adopted. It being the report read at the last meeting by P. H. Lowrey, it can be seen by reference to the minutes of 1891.

DIGEST OF LETTERS.

The following is the digest of letters prepared by J. J. Whitten and N. A. McLeod:

ANTIOCH—Have had no pastor this year; occasional preaching by visiting ministers; decrease of membe ship one (1); contributions about the same as last year; no Sunday School.

BATESVILLE—Net inerease in membership ten (10); increase in contributions, over last year, about two-thirds; church prospering spiritually; has good Sunday School.

BETHANY—Net decrease in membership six; some decrease in contributions; spiritual condition good; very successful meeting conducted by B. N. Hatch; has a Sunday School.

BIG SPRINGS—Church doing well spiritually; decrease in membership one (1); material decrease in contributions; has no Sunday School; held a meeting of days.

BUTLER'S CHAPEL—No report.

CLEAR CREEK—No report.

CONCORD—Had no meeting of days; church in rather depressed condition; has no Sunday School; net decrease in membership two (2); considerable decrease in contribution.

COURTLAND—Has had a meeting of days, much good was accomplished; net increase in membership five (5); considerable decrease in contributions, but have built a good house of worship; has a Sunday School.

GOOD HOPE—Held a successful meeting of days; net increase

in membership three (3); has an evergreen Sunday School; some decrease in contributions.

LIBERTY HILL—Held a meeting of days; net decrease in membership three (3); no Sunday School; decrease in contributions.

MT GILEAD—Held a meeting of days; net decrease in membership six (6); church in good spiritual condition; no Sunday School reported; slight decrease in contributions.

MT. PISGAH—Had a protected meeting; Sunday School is well attended; net decrease in membership four (4); some increase in contributions.

OXFORD—Attempted a meeting of days, but owing to inclement weather was unab'e to continue it; good prayer meetings and Sunday School; net decrease in membership fifteen (15); taking into consideration the amount contributed for building Jackson church, there has been an increase in contibutions of about 100 per cent.

POPE—No meeting of days owing to sickness of pastor; prosperous Sunday School; net decrease in memberseip five (5); falling off in contributions 50 per cent.

PILGRIM'S REST—Had a meeting of days; the word was preached in its purity, which had great effect upon the hearers; net increase in membership nineteen (19); paid full apportionment; has a Sunday School.

WATER VALLEY—Has a good Sunday School and prayer meeting; contributions about the same as last year; net increase in membership seven (7); no meeting yet.

YELLOW LEAF—No report.

YOCONA—No meeting of days yet; net decrease in membership one (1); slight decrease in contributions; have an evergreen Sunday School.

UNION—Net increase in membership two (2); church in prosperous condition; no Sunday School reported.

NEW LIBERTY—Held a protracted meeting; has a Sunday School; increase in membership two (2).

The following resolution offered by B. F. Whitten was adopted:

Resolved, That the Oxford Association request that the Com-

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mittee on Mission Rooms at Jackson be authorized to inscribe upon some slab in the mission rooms, "Oxford Association for Christ."

Preamble and resolution offered by W. I. Hargis:

Whereas, Many of the messengers leave the Association before its close, in many cases with no good excuse for leaving, and

Whereas, Such a course is seriously detrimental to the interests of the Association;

Resolved, That those who may be sent as messengers by the churches to the next, and all subsequent meetings of the Association, be urgently requested to remain until the close, and that the churches be requested to insist upon their messengers remaining until the close of the session.

On motion, adjourned to meet at the time and place above mentioned.

H. W. ROCKETT, Moderator,
W. I. HARGIS, Secretary.

Thus closes a pleasant and profitable session of the Association.

SECRETARY.

Order of Business.

1 Call for Petitionary Letters.
2 Receive Corresponding Messengers.
3 Receive reports of Messengers to corresponding bodies.
4 Appoint Messengers to corresponding bodies.
5 Appoint a Finance Committee.
6 Receive report of Executive Board.
7 Receive reports of Standing Committees.
8 Receive Treasurer's Report.
9 Receive report Finance Committee.
10 Appoint Standing Committees.
11 Appoint a place for next meeting.
12 Appoint a Brother to preach Introductory Sermon.
13 Miscellaneous Business and Resolutions.
14 Call and correct the roll.
15 Adjourn.

STATISTICS OF THE CHURCHES FOR 1891-2.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS	P. O. ADDRESS	Membership Last Year	MEMBERSHIP. INCREASE Baptism	INCREASE Letter	INCREASE Exper'nce	INCREASE Restored	DECREASE Letter	DECREASE Exclusion	DECREASE Erasure	DECREASE Death	Present Membership
Antioch		M. M. Randolph	Courtland	32	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	31
Batesville	L. N. Brock	S. Van Voris	Batesville	47	4	7	..	..	..	1	..	..	57
Bethany	J. T. Zealy	D. W. Patterson	Harrison	84	4	2	..	..	8	11	..	3	78
Big Springs	H. L. Johnson	D. G. Thomas	Water Valley	42	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	41
Butler's Chapel			Oxford	14	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
Clear Creek	R. G. Hewlett	S. R. Whitten	Morgansville	111	12	17	..	3	12	..	..	1	130
Concord	R. G. Hewlett	J. W. Higginbotham	Taylor	91	2	3	..	..	3	..	..	4	89
Courtland	J. A. Lee	A. H. Leigh	Courtland	38	6	4	..	..	3	..	..	2	43
Good Hope	H. W. Rockett	J. D. Woodruff	Batesville	....	8	..	..	1	5	..	..	..	105
Liberty Hill	H. L. Johnson	J. T. White	Eureka Springs	48	..	1	..	2	4	1	..	1	45
Mt. Gilead	W. L. Hudson	A. F. Alexander	Water Valley	46	..	..	..	..	6	..	..	..	34
Mt. Pisgah	J. C. Brandon	W. T. Willshire	Oakland	70	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	2	64
New Liberty	H. L. Johnson	J. T. Johnsey	Water Valley	..	..	3	..	..	..	1	..	..	22
Oxford	G. W. Gardner	W. U. Hampton	Oxford	133	..	5	..	..	4	..	16	..	118
Pope	J. T. Zealy	W. H. A. Beemis	Pope	57	..	..	..	..	3	..	..	2	52
Pilgrim's Rest	G. W. Hollowell	C. A. Morgan	Reynolds	77	17	1	1	..	..	2	..	3	91
Water Valley	E. L. Wesson	W. B. Page	Water Valley	138	4	8	..	1	5	..	..	1	145
*Yellow Leaf	C. W. Smith	T. Winter	Oxford	111	6	..	..	..	9	1	..	..	107
Yocona	W. I. Hargis	J. L. Sisk	Taylor	58	2	..	..	..	1	1	..	1	57
Union	W. P. Winter	D. W. Bullard	Water Valley	37	2	6	..	..	4	..	..	..	45
Total				1234	77	57	1	7	69	18	16	22	1368

* No report.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THE CHURCHES FOR 1891-2.

CHURCHES	Home Expenses	Missions	Education	Jackson Church	Pastor's Salary	Minutes	Misc'llan'us.	Total Am't	Value of Church Property
Antioch	.....	$ 2 50	.....	.....	.....	$ 75	.....	$ 3 25	$ 200 00
Batesville	$ 267 00	69 00	$ 20 00	$ 56 00	$ 350 00	2 00	$ 91 00	855 60	1,000 00
Bethany	70 00	27 10	.....	.....	125 00	2 00	40 00	264 10	1,500 00
Big Springs	6 00	25 00	.....	.....	35 00	2 00	.....	68 00	750 00
†Butler's Chapel	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Clear Creek	.....	52 50	150 00	10 00	150 00	2 00	.....	364 50	3,500 00
Concord	.....	6 90	.....	.....	100 00	2 25	.....	109 15	500 00
Courtland	5,586 95	23 50	.....	.....	150 00	1 50	.....	5,761 95	5,577 00
Good Hope	9 50	22 46	.....	.....	109 25	2 00	1 00	144 21	200 00
Liberty Hill	.....	5 00	.....	.....	23 35	60	.....	28 95	300 00
Mt. Gilead	.....	5 00	.....	.....	27 00	1 00	.....	33 00	400 00
Mt. Pisgah	.....	11 08	.....	.....	75 00	1 00	.....	87 08	.....
New Liberty	2 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 00	.....	3 00	.....
Oxford	125 00	217 98	.....	385 00	1,000 00	3 00	.....	1,730 98	11,400 00
Pope	.....	3 35	.....	.....	100 00	85	.....	104 20	1,000 00
Pilgrims' Rest	.....	20 00	.....	.....	100 00	1 50	.....	121 50	150 00
Union	.....	10 60	.....	.....	75 00	1 00	.....	86 60	.....
Water Valley	357 00	92 00	63 00	10 00	600 00	3 00	83 25	1,208 25	3,500 00
Yellow Leaf	.....	15 00	5 00	.....	150 00	1 50	*70 00	241 50	1,500 00
Yocona	7 00	30 00	.....	.....	100 00	2 00	17 00	156 00	800 00
Total	$6,429 45	$638 97	$238 00	$461 00	$3,269 60	$30 95	$304 25	$11,371 32	$32,277 00

† No report. *Charity.

NOTE. It is impossible to compile an accurate statistical table from the letters. The secretary cannot take the responsibility of guessing at what is meant. There is but little basis, in some cases, even for a guess. Will the clerks of churches please be more careful in the future in compiling statistics. Please state, always, what different sums of money contributed by the church were for. There is too little data in the letters for more than a mere fragmentary statement of Sunday School work. For information upon this point we refer you to the Digest of letters.

W. I. HARGIS, Secretary.

A REASON—As the money contributed by the churches for minutes was insufficient to bring them out, and the secretary having called the attention of the Association to that fact more than once, and receiving no responses, in order to raise sufficient funds to defray the expense of publication and sending them out to the churches, solicited and obtained the following advertisements. Should there be objections to this, please send enough money next time to defray the expense of publication and delivery. SECRETARY.

AN EXPLANATION.

Owing to a report which is being industriously circulated to the effect that I willfully suppressed the corresponding letter of the Clear Creek church, the following explanation is due myself, and through the kindness of the Secretary of the Association, I am permitted to insert it at the conclusion of the minutes of the Association:

I returned home from the Mississippi Bottom on the 6th of September, intending to start to the Association on the 7th, but finding serious sickness in my home, I sought a way to send the letter with minutes of the last meeting, a letter to Bro. G. W. Gardner concerning a contribution of $3 00 from Liberty Hill church, $3.75 from Bethany church, also $52.50 from Clear Creek church, also the report of the Executive Board, and some private letters to different brethren. But failing to find anyone going, I sent them by express to Capt. Z D. Jennings of Water Valley, hoping he might be able to forward them to the Association, but he did not learn of their presence in the express office until after the Association had adjourned. But I have furnished the Secretary with all necessary data for a full statistical report of our church.

Regretting greatly the circumstances above mentioned, over which I had no control, and that I could not meet with the brethren, as I very much desired to do, I hope this explanation will

be satisfactory, even to those disposed to censure me for a thing that was unavoidable on my part. I am yours fraternally,

S. R. WHITTEN,
Clerk of Clear Creek church.

NOTE.—I can certify that the above statement is true.

SECRETARY.

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Proprietor.

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